



UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (ESCAP)

Civil Society Organization Report to the
Second Session of the Working Group on the
Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013-2022
New Delhi, 2-3 March 2015

At the First Session of the Working Group on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities held at Incheon, Republic of Korea, on 25 and 26 February 2014, it was recommended that the ESCAP secretariat should draft a standard format, aligned with the road map, for every Working Group member to use in preparing a structured and concise report on Incheon Strategy implementation and other actions in follow-up to Working Group session, for transmission to the ESCAP secretariat at least 80 days before the next session (see recommendation (b) (ii)). It was also agreed that those reports should be uploaded at least 60 days prior to the session (see recommendation (b) (iii)).

This report template should be completed and returned in electronic form, i.e., MS-Word, by 10 December 2014 to:

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1. Has your Organization taken any action to promote regional/subregional cooperation in supporting implementation of the Incheon Strategy?

☒ Yes ☐ No

- 1.1. If yes, list all the activities implemented by your Organization at the subregional and regional levels in support of the Incheon Strategy (e.g., conferences, training, campaign, etc.).

(Limit each activity to max. 50 words)

Activities from 27 February 2014 to 10 December 2014

Goal 1: Reduce poverty & enhance work & employment prospects

APCD/Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund Project in Mekong Sub-region, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Vietnam, March 2014-December 2014

APCD has been implementing a joint project for creating Non-Handicapping Environment (NHE) in rural communities to promote livelihood opportunities for persons with disabilities; and improved community awareness and involvement in the promotion and protection of the rights of persons with disabilities in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Vietnam. (<http://www.apcdfoundation.org/?q=content/apcdjaif-projects-training-project-proposal-writing-pyapon-myanmar-25-27-november-2014>, <http://www.apcdfoundation.org/?q=content/apcdjaif-project-training-proposal-writing-disability-awareness-and-monitoring-lao-pdr-21-27->, <http://www.apcdfoundation.org/?q=content/apcdjaif-project-training-project-proposal-writing-kien-svay-cambodia-7-10-october-2014>, <http://www.apcdfoundation.org/?q=content/apcdjaif-project-creating-non-handicapping-environments-rural-communities-asean-vietnam-18-2>, <http://www.apcdfoundation.org/?q=content/third-apcdjaif-project-steering-committee-meeting-and-nhe-workshop-myanmar-10-15-august-2014>, <http://www.apcdfoundation.org/?q=content/apcdjaifs-training-disability-awareness-advocacy-cambodia-3-4-july-2014>, <http://www.apcdfoundation.org/?q=content/official-launch-national-disability-strategic-plan-2014-2018-and-5th-anniversary-law-protect>, <http://www.apcdfoundation.org/?q=content/third-apcdjaif-project-steering-committee-meeting-and-nhe-workshop-lao-pdr-8-13-june-2014>, <http://www.apcdfoundation.org/?q=content/third-apcdjaif-project-steering-committee-meeting-and-nhe-workshop-vietnam-16-23-may-2014>)

Goal 2: Promote participation in political processes & in decision-making

Community for All: An Inclusive Community for Persons with Disabilities, Thailand, February 2014-December 2014

One key point of the Project is to involve local authorities and representatives of civil society to promote the participation of persons with disabilities through the application of the Community-based Inclusive Development. Establishing a barrier-free community enhances the participation of persons with disabilities in community development activities. (<http://apcdfoundation.org/?q=content/ciai-apcd-cbid-methodology-and-management-training-sisaket-thailand-30-september-3-october-2>, <http://apcdfoundation.org/?q=content/ciai-apcd-project-community-based-inclusive-development-training-nakhon-si-thammarat-thailand>)

National Consultation Meeting on Laws and Policies related to Autism in Vietnam, Hanoi, Vietnam, 2 December 2014

The perspective of autism was discussed by the meeting organized by the Ministry of Labour - Invalids and Social Affairs of Vietnam, Vietnam Autism Network and APCD, with support from the Japan International Cooperation Agency and the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund, to provide opportunities for persons with autism and their parents to get

involved in the policy-making process. (<http://www.apcdfoundation.org/?q=content/national-consultation-meeting-laws-and-policies-related-autism-vietnam-hanoi-vietnam-2-decem>)

Goal 3: Enhance access to the physical environment, public transportation, knowledge, information & communication

"Making It Work" Good Practices Project in Mekong Sub-region, Cambodia, Lao and Thailand, February 2014-July 2014

The "Making It Work" booklet highlights five good practices each in Cambodia and Lao PDR towards the full promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities. A film documentary of two selected good practices from each country, presented in four languages with subtitles and sign language features was also released. (<http://apcdfoundation.org/?q=content/making-it-work-crpd-advocacy-government-action-program-cambodia-lao-pdr-and-thailand>)

Incheon Strategy in Accessible Formats, Mongolia, 26 March 2014

The Incheon Strategy was translated into Mongolian and released its other accessible formats such as sign language, audio and braille. These materials were handed over by the Minister of Population Development and Social Protection of Mongolia to Social Integration Section Chief, ESCAP. (<http://www.apcdfoundation.org/?q=content/make-right-real-workshop-mongolia-ulaanbaatar-mongolia-26-march-2014>)

Let's Learn more about Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Deafened, Thailand, February-May 2014

The proposed training aims to develop APCD staff in effective communication and facilitation with persons who are deaf, hard of hearing and deafened internationally. Upon completing the training, APCD staff developed the capability to collaborate with persons who are deaf, hard of hearing and deafened in the multinational working environment. (<http://apcdfoundation.org/?q=content/apcd-empowerment-volume-58>)

Booklet on Voices of Persons who are Hard of Hearing and Deafened in Asia and the Pacific, August 2014

The booklet was developed in collaboration with the Asia-Pacific Federation of the Hard of Hearing and Deafened. It features the insights of persons who are hard of hearing in Asia and the Pacific, as well as forms of accessible communication. (<http://apcdfoundation.org/?q=content/voices-persons-who-are-hard-hearing-and-deafened-asia-and-pacific>)

Decrees on Disabilities in Accessible Formats, Lao PDR, 26 September 2014

The Decree on Persons with Disabilities (Decree No. 137) and the Decree on the Organization of Operation of National Committee for Disabled People and the Elderly (Decree No. 232) of Lao PDR are available in text, epub and readable PDF with support from APCD. Both Decrees have further strengthened the Government of Lao PDR's commitment to uphold the rights of persons with disabilities, and ensured the continued implementation of disability-related projects. (<http://apcdfoundation.org/?q=content/celebration-national-day-persons-disabilities-2014-vientiane-lao-pdr-26-september-2014>)

"Persons with Disabilities Rights and Protection Act in Bangladesh User-Friendly Booklet", November 2014

This booklet is about Persons with Disabilities' Rights and the Protection Act 2013. This Act is in line with the principles of the CRPD. The Parliament members and the President of Bangladesh passed the Persons with Disabilities Rights and Protection Act 2013 on 9 October 2013. The Disabled Welfare Act 2001 was revoked with the support of the Charter of the United Nations when Bangladesh activated its new law on disability in 2013. (<http://apcdfoundation.org/?q=content/persons-disabilities-rights-and-protection-act-bangladesh-user-friendly-booklet>)

Online Information on Disability, February-November 2014

Information on disability is disseminated through APCD, CBR Asia-Pacific Network and ASEAN Autism Network website in a timely manner. The "Empowerment" Monthly Newsletter and Weekly Bulletins are available in e-format to keep stakeholders updated about news from the Asia-Pacific region. (<http://apcdfoundation.org>, <http://www.cbrasiapacific.net>, <http://www.aan-asean.net>, <http://apcdfoundation.org/?q=node/640>, <http://apcdfoundation.org/?q=content/e-cafe-delivery>,

Goal 4: Strengthen social protection**Workshop on Community-Based Inclusive Development in Mongolia, Mongolia, 27-28 March 2014**

Participants, particularly those with disabilities expressed their full support for the workshop because they were able to exchange ideas and opinions with various sectors, including the government, community stakeholders, the business sector, and medical professionals about issues relating to the concept of Community-based Inclusive Development. (<http://apcdfoundation.org/?q=content/report-workshop-community-based-inclusive-development-mongolia>)

Capacity Enhancement Program, Jatiya Protibondhi Unnayan Foundation, Ministry of Social Welfare of Bangladesh, 24 April 2014

The participants were given an overview of APCD activities related to the empowerment of persons with disabilities, including leadership and empowerment workshops, accessible publications, and community-based rehabilitation. The participants plan to apply the knowledge they gained to help and enhance services to persons with disabilities in Bangladesh. (<http://www.apcdfoundation.org/?q=content/capacity-enhancement-program-jatiya-protibondhi-unnayan-foundation-ministry-social-welfare-b>)

Knowledge Creation Forum on CBID Inclusive Development 2014 in Southeast Asia, Thailand, 24 August-6 September 2014

Among the key outcomes of the Training were the setting up of a communication system, including the use of communication cards and wireless keyboards. The Training gave participants an opportunity to share, apply, and widen their knowledge, experiences, and skills. It allowed them to create country reports and action plans. (<http://apcdfoundation.org/?q=content/summary-report-third-country-training-programme-knowledge-creation-forum-cbid-inclusive-deve>)

Goal 5: Expand early intervention and education of children with disabilities

Community Development Skills Training for Wheelchair Children Project, Thailand, June, August, October, December 2014

With the support of the local government, special education teachers and other local stakeholders, the Project aims to provide accessibility and a barrier-free environment to children with disabilities in Thailand. The Project also conducts visits and access audits to homes of children with disabilities. (<http://apcdfoundation.org/?q=content/workshop-non-handicapping-environment-khon-kaen-thailand-29-30-october-2014>, <http://apcdfoundation.org/?q=content/community-development-skills-training-wheelchair-children-trang-thailand-27-29-august-2014>)

Goal 6: Ensure gender equality & women's empowerment

Regional Training on Empowerment of Women with Disabilities in South Asia

The three-day Training enabled participants to share their knowledge and experiences, and exchange information about empowerment of women with disabilities from a South Asian perspective. Men with disabilities were also invited as resource speakers to share their views. In 2015, relevant activities are planned in Afghanistan and Nepal. (<http://www.apcdfoundation.org/?q=content/regional-training-empowerment-women-disabilities-south-asia-bangkok-thailand-14-16-november->)

Goal 7: Ensure disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction and management

Support for Persons with Autism Affected by the Typhoon, Philippines, February 2014

A showcase of the joint initiative on emergency support for typhoon victims by the Autism Society Philippines and APCD, in collaboration with the ASEAN Autism Network. The initiative's four components were outlined, namely, technical support to help the families with their basic needs; referral and networking; capacity building; and the collection of data on the families' needs. (<http://apcdfoundation.org/?q=content/report-support-typhoon-victims-philippines>)

Goal 9: Accelerate the ratification and implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the harmonization of national legislation with the Convention

"Make the Right Real" Workshop in Mongolia, Mongolia, 26 March 2014

The event demonstrated highest-level political commitment to implementing the Incheon Strategy in Mongolia. In addition to the President of Mongolia whose message was delivered by his advisor, pledges were made by the Prime Minister, the Parliament Speaker and key persons to reaffirm the nation's commitment to the Incheon Strategy. (<http://apcdfoundation.org/?q=content/make-right-real-workshop-mongolia>)

Official Launch of the National Disability Strategic Plan 2014-2018 and the 5th Anniversary of the Law on the Protection and the Promotion of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Cambodia, 3 July 2014

The event was presided by Cambodian Prime Minister who extolled the Plan as an effective tool in addressing disability issues. Minister of Social Affairs, Veteran and Youth Rehabilitation (MoSVY), kindly addressed APCD's contribution in Cambodia in relation to grassroots activities in partnership with the Government of Cambodia. The event also featured the official handover of the National Disability Strategic Plan to MoSVY. (<http://apcdfoundation.org/?q=content/official-launch-national-disability-strategic-plan-2014-2018-and-5th-anniversary-law-protect>)

Ceremony for the National Day of Persons with Disabilities, Lao PDR, 26 September 2014

For the first time in its history, the event on the National Day for Persons with Disabilities in Lao PDR chaired by Prime Minister with more than 600 participants. It also marked the launch of the Decree on Persons with Disabilities (Decree No. 137) and the Decree on the Organization of Operation of National Committee for Disabled People and the Elderly (Decree No. 232). (<http://apcdfoundation.org/?q=content/celebration-national-day-persons-disabilities-2014-vientiane-lao-pdr-26-september-2014>)

Commemoration to Make the Right Real in Vietnam: Official Announcement of the Ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, 3 December 2014

A formal and public announcement was made to ratify the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities by Deputy Prime Minister as well as the Minister of Labour - Invalids and Social Affairs on behalf of the Government of Vietnam. (<http://www.apcdfoundation.org/?q=content/commemoration-make-right-real-ratification-un-crp-d-hanoi-vietnam-3-december-2014>)

Goal 10: Advance subregional, regional and interregional cooperation

Asia-Pacific Federation of the Hard of Hearing and Deafened Biannual General Meeting, Thailand, 31 August 2014

As the Network Secretariat, APCD supported the Asia-Pacific Federation of the Hard of Hearing and Deafened Biannual General Meeting. The activity review and action plan were discussed. The new Executive Committee Members were elected in the Meeting. (<http://apfhd.net/apfhd/#>)

2nd Executive Committee of the CBR Global Network, Thailand, 8-9 September 2014

In collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO), APCD hosted the 2nd Executive Committee of the Network to clarify the future steps to be taken.

Mainstreaming Women with Disabilities in the Beijing+20 Review Side Event: South Asia, 17 November 2014

Aimed at highlighting a regional focus on the inclusion of women with disabilities, the Side Event provided an opportunity for women with disabilities in South Asia to take part in the discussion process of the Beijing+20 Review, to develop their capacity in engaging and collaborating with other stakeholders. (<http://www.apcdfoundation.org/?q=content/mainstreaming-women-disabilities-beijing20-review-side-event-bangkok-thailand-17-november-20>)

2. Has your Organization contributed to including specific measures on the Ministerial Declaration and the Incheon Strategy in the agendas and programmes of meetings organized by regional/subregional intergovernmental bodies (e.g., ASEAN, ECO, PIF, SAARC)?

☒ Yes ☐ No

- 2.1. If yes, please specify which meeting your Organization attended (including the title of the meeting, venue and dates).

^{3.} (Limit each entry to max. 50 words)

Asia-Pacific Regional Consultation on Social Protection, Rural Employment and Food Security, Bangkok, Thailand, 8-9 October 2014

APCD shared its regional expertise in the Regional Consultation organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization in collaboration with the International Labour Organization. In a presentation titled, "Social Inclusion for Persons with Disabilities in the Agricultural Sector", APCD highlighted Disability-Inclusive Agribusiness activities in reference with the Goal 1 of the Incheon Strategy. (<http://apcdfoundation.org/?q=content/asia-pacific-regional-consultation-social-protection-rural-employment-and-food-security-bang>)

- 2.2. Please describe which goal(s) of the Incheon Strategy your intervention specifically targeted at the above meeting(s).

- ☒ All areas covered by the 10 Goals of the Incheon Strategy
☐ Only specific area(s), e.g., Goal 1 on poverty reduction

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